



News From

Maggie Brooks

Monroe County Executive

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COUNTY TO DISPLAY MIDTOWN TOTEM POLE AT ZOO

Tonight, the Monroe County Legislature voted to accept the donation of a wooden totem pole from Midtown Rochester Properties, LLC, for permanent display at Monroe County's Seneca Park Zoo.

The twenty-six foot tall hand-carved totem pole is located at Midtown Plaza in Downtown Rochester, and was originally commissioned in the late 1970s to celebrate the fifteenth anniversary of Midtown Plaza's opening. Walter Harris and Art Sterrit, two native North American craftsmen of the Gitksan tribe from 'Ksan in British Columbia, carved the totem pole. It was raised at a public ceremony in April 1977, and has since become a Rochester landmark.

The totem pole will be removed from its current location and installed at the Seneca Park Zoo by County Parks Department staff before the demolition of Midtown Plaza.

*"The Midtown Plaza totem pole is a cherished piece of our community's history," said **County Executive Maggie Brooks**. "Not only was the totem pole created to commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of Midtown Plaza, but its symbols and subject matter relate to Rochester's history as well. The County is grateful for this generous donation from Midtown Rochester Properties because by permanently displaying the artwork at the Seneca Park Zoo, Monroe County residents and visitors to our area will be able to enjoy the totem pole and learn from it for years to come."*

The Clock of Nations, another Midtown Plaza landmark, was donated to the Monroe County Airport Authority in April. After being restored, the clock will be displayed at the Greater Rochester International Airport until 2012, when it will be donated to the Golisano Children's Hospital at Strong.

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